

LARGE PRINT EDITION



HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday

June 16, 2024 + 9:30 am

The parable of the mustard seed

Learn Live and Share God's Word

Christ the mustard seed grows into a tree with room for all

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

Gathering

PRELUDE

"We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise"

arr. Kirk Dearman

At the sound of the bell please stand if you are able.

GATHERING DIALOG

A Blessed be God who calls us together.

C Praise be God who makes us one people.

A Blessed be God who has forgiven our sin.

C Praise to God who gives hope and freedom.

A Blessed be God whose Word is proclaimed.

C Praise to God who is revealed as love.

A Blessed be God who alone has called us.

C We offer all that we are, and all that we shall become.

A Receive, O God, our sacrifice of thanks and praise.

C Accept our thanks for all you have done.

Our hands were empty, and you filled them.

GATHERING SONG

(hymn) ELW 670

“Build Us Up Lord”

1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in us a strong foundation.

**Lead us to do your holy will;
form and shape your new creation.**

**Build us up, Lord, build us up;
as we guide and teach each other,
help us to share your love with the world:
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother.**

Refrain

**Growing in Christ, we plant seeds for the kingdom;
we follow in faith what's begun!
Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your word
to spread the news of your Son!**

2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our lives reflect your glory.

**Cast away all our doubts and fears;
help us tell the world your story.**

**Build us up, Lord, build us up;
help us bear good fruit for you,
Lord, give us vision and keep us sure.**

Grant us faith that's steadfast and true. *Refrain*

Text: Mark Glaeser, b. 1956, and Donna Hanna, b. 1952
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GREETING AND GATHERING PRAYER

P Grace to you and peace from God our Creator,
the love at our beginning and without end,
in our midst and with us.

C God is with us, here we find new life.

P Let us pray.

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world.
Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth,
that we may bear your truth and love to those in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

The presider continues with words of welcome.

Word

CHILDREN'S WORD

Children are invited forward; parents are welcome to come with their children.

FIRST READING

The sign of the cedar

Ezekiel 17:22–24

Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the Lord will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.

Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar;

I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.

²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it,

in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will
nest winged creatures of every kind.

²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish.

I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

Praise to Christ the Word.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 92:1–4, 12–15 ICEL

The righteous shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon. (92:12)

A How good to thank you, Lord, to praise your name, Most High,

**C to sing your love at dawn,
your faithfulness at dusk**

A with sound of lyre and harp, with music of the lute.

**C For your work brings delight,
your deeds invite song.**

A The just grow tall like palm trees,
majestic like cedars of Lebanon,

**C They are planted in the temple courts
and flourish in God's house,
green and heavy with fruit even in old age.**

A Proclaim that God is just, my rock without a fault.

**C Give praise to the Father Almighty;
to the Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord;
to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts;
both now and forever. Amen.**

SECOND READING

In Christ, a new creation

2 Corinthians 5:6–10, 14–17

Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.

Paul writes to the church in Corinth:

We are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord — ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

~~[¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.]~~

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Praise to Christ the Word.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

setting 4; ELW page 151

The assembly stands and welcomes the gospel, singing:

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

The parable of the mustard seed

Mark 4:26–34

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus says, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

(*hymn*) ELW 679

“For The Fruit of All Creation”

- 1 For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.**
- 2 In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.**
- 3 For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.**

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000
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STATEMENT OF FAITH (*Maori, New Zealand*)

A Let us together proclaim the faith that we share with
Christians around the world, using words of a Maori creed...

C You, O God, are supreme and holy,
You create our world and give us life,
your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us. You are God.
You, O God, are infinitely generous,
good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved your love for us

**in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now. You are God.
You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
You are our God. We worship you.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Father's Day blessing

*Prayers are offered for the Church, the earth, the nations, and those in any need.
each petition concludes:*

...Hear our prayer, O God of grace,

C Your mercy endures forever.

**P Merciful God, you look with compassion on all who turn
to you. Hear the prayers of your people.**

**C Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Meal

PEACE

P Blessed be Christ the Prince of Peace,

C who breaks down the walls that divide.

P May the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

C May the word of Christ dwell in us richly.

The assembly is invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

OFFERING

When bread and wine are broken and shared in the Lord's Supper an offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

Please leave your offerings in the baskets in the aisles or give online. During this time, the table is set. Please stand as the offering procession reaches the chancel. Thank you for your generosity.

"God's Work Our Hands"

Presentation of the Gifts

Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray together.

C **Blessed are you, God of all creation;
through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.
Blessed be God forever. Amen.**

The assisting minister pours out the wine.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord is here.

C **God's spirit is with us.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **it is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P ... we give you thanks and sing: *setting 4, ELW p. 153*

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving, concluding:

Lord's Prayer (1789)

P As Christ teaches we pray:

C Our Father who art heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion

Communion

"Lamb of God"

setting 4; ELW page 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have
mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

silence for reflection concludes the communion

Prayer after Communion

A Let us pray.

Most loving God, creator and redeemer,
we give you thanks for this foretaste of your glory.

C Through Christ, and with all your saints,
we offer ourselves and our lives to your service.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, the servant,
our friend and brother. Amen.

Sending

BLESSING

P Be strengthened with the power of God, + the love of Christ,
and the help of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG

(hymn) ELW 547

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

**1 Sent forth by God's blessing,
our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended.
Oh, now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching,
receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
Your grace shall incite us,
your love shall unite us
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.**

**2 With praise and thanksgiving
to God ever-living,
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face—
our faith ever sharing,
in love ever caring,
embracing God's children, the whole human race.
With your feast you feed us,
with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living
with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

DISMISSAL

Please face the worship leaders for the dismissal.

A Go now to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Build Us Up Lord”

Mark Glaeser

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Serving Today

Pastor Foy Christopherson, *presiding*

Audrey Erickson, *assisting minister*

Cheryl Sundly, *reader*

Ruth Bills, *director of music & worship*

Anna Matthes, *summer music*

David Larson and Matti Gurney, *technology desk*

Janell Partyka, *sacristan/altar guild*

Rich Feist, *ushers*

Rick Labandz, *bus ministry*

Nancy and Jim Felicetta, *coffee hosts*

Chancel flowers this weekend are given by Dan Gillett
in celebration of Dan and Su's wedding anniversary.

If you wish to donate flowers sign up in the narthex or call the church office.

Please join us for coffee fellowship in the lower level following worship.

This service is being streamed live on the internet.

*The language of our worship this summer
is based on language in the New Zealand Prayer Book.*

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Contact the coordinator below if you can help to accomplish these tasks:

OPPORTUNITY	COORDINATOR	DUE
Northeast Parade	Karen Moeller	Tuesday, June 18
100 Anniversary team	Karen Moeller	Forming now
Summer coffee hosts	Karen Moeller	Sign up downstairs
Salty Carmel hosts	Pastor C	Sign up in narthex
MCCC Board secretary	Brenda W; C Pudney	open position
Annual budget team	Karen Moeller	new team established by cong. Council (only Autumn meetings)

Welcome

Everyone is welcome. We are a faith community participating in the life of God, a life that is a gift to us and in which we are actively engaged. That gift compels us to be actively engaged in the neighborhoods of Northeast Minneapolis as well. We are a multigenerational community that proudly celebrates our history while joining together with younger generations to follow where God is leading. We build our community through faith practices like prayer, dwelling in the Word and hospitality.

Guests are welcome. We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. If you would like more information about Mt. Carmel, please contact us at 612-781-2796, or email pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org

Children are welcome at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available outside the sanctuary.

Welcome to the Lord's Table. All who come seeking Jesus are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to you where you are seated if you require accessibility accommodation. Please inform the ushers. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. White grape juice is available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

Welcome to the Holy Baptism. All who come seeking Jesus are welcome to receive Holy Baptism. Please visit with any worship leader, staff member, hospitality volunteer, contact the church office, or complete an information card, indicating that you wish to be baptized. Our pastor will contact you.

Friends of Mt. Carmel...Stay connected

Across the country and beyond there are many people who have a soft spot in their heart for Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church – people who feel a connection both to the history and the ongoing mission of this congregation. If you're one of them, we invite you to join a new network of Friends of Mt. Carmel. Email pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org for more information or to join.



Digital giving is available at Mt. Carmel. You can easily donate online through our website at mountcarmelmpls.org and click on **Give**. Mt. Carmel Lutheran is supported by generous people like you. Questions? Contact the church office at 612-781-2796.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

MT. CARMEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

learn, live and share God's word

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